



# The Cleveland Museum of Art

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## THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART HIGHLIGHTS GREAT AMERICAN WESTERNS *Into the West*

Sun, 3:30 pm & Wed, 7:30 pm (unless noted), November 3-December 5, 1993

Admission \$4, CMA members \$3. Special rate: \$2 Kids 12 and under.

If the movies are a quintessentially American art form, then Western movies, with their rugged individuals exhibiting frontier spirit amid tumbleweeds and mountain ranges, are the most purely American kind of film. Indeed, for much of the world, American culture is practically (if not accurately) defined by Westerns. *Into the West*, an eleven-film series at The Cleveland Museum of Art, singles out some of the highest achievements in the form, complete with sweeping landscapes, life-and-death drama, guns, horses, hats, and characters ranging from mythologically pure to downright seedy.

The Western director against whom all others are judged will no doubt always be John Ford, whose sixty-year career might be seen as one great lofty plateau crowned by towering cinematic peaks. Chosen for this series is *My Darling Clementine*, Ford's subtle, stately film about the legendary shootout at the OK Corral, with Henry Fonda as Wyatt Earp. Another movie that aficionados place in the great Western stratosphere is George Stevens' *Shane*, starring Alan Ladd, Jean Arthur, Van Heflin, and Jack Palance, with Oscar-winning cinematography by Loyal Griggs.

Many familiar stars populate these movies. Gregory Peck and Karl Malden discover old gunslingers can't easily settle down, in *The Gunfighter*; bounty hunter James Stewart tracks down Robert Ryan in *The Naked Spur*; John Wayne tries to turn Dean Martin and Ricky Nelson into competent deputies in Howard Hawks' *Rio Bravo*; Charles Bronson, Henry Fonda, and Claudia Cardinale act out Sergio Leone's operatic *Once Upon a Time in the West*; Warren Beatty and Julie Christie go into business together as *McCabe and Mrs. Miller* (an early Robert Altman hit); and Joan Crawford squares off against Mercedes McCambridge in Nicholas Ray's classic *Johnny Guitar*. The great uncredited star is the dramatic Western landscape itself, which seems in these films to have been created just for the big, wide screen – or was it the other way around? In any case, that breathtaking grandeur just doesn't translate onto television, so fans of classic American cinema will not want to miss this opportunity to see these films in all their panoramic glory.

Film details next page

## Into the West

Wed, 7:30 pm (unless noted) and Sun, 3:30 pm.

Eleven superb westerns illustrate the color and vitality of the most durable and American of film genres, which has lasted from 1903's *The Great Train Robbery* to 1992's *Unforgiven*. All made in the U.S.A. \$4; \$3 CMA members; \$2 kids 12 and under.

Wed/Nov 3, 7:30 pm *McCabe and Mrs. Miller*, 1971, color, 121 min. Directed by Robert Altman, with Warren Beatty and Julie Christie. Deglamorized tale of a small-time gambler who opens a bordello in a turn-of-the-century boom town. *Rated R*.

Sun/Nov 7, 3:30 pm *My Darling Clementine*, 1946, b&w, 97 min. Directed by John Ford, with Henry Fonda, Linda Damell and Victor Mature. Poetic account of Wyatt Earp, Doc Holliday and the gunfight at the OK Corral.

Wed/Nov 10, 7:30 pm *Ride the High Country*, 1962, color, 94 min. Directed by Sam Peckinpah, with Randolph Scott, Joel McCrea and Mariette Hartley. Two aged gunfighters reflect on their lives while transporting a gold shipment across the mountains.

Sun/Nov 14, 3:30 pm *Shane*, 1953, color, 118 min. Directed by George Stevens, with Alan Ladd, Jean Arthur and Van Heflin. Moving saga about a mysterious stranger who aids a group of homesteaders in their fight against cattlemen.

Wed/Nov 17, 7 pm *Once Upon a Time in the West*, 1969, color, 165 min. Directed by Sergio Leone, with Charles Bronson, Henry Fonda and Claudia Cardinale. Stylish, operatic tale of loyalty and revenge in the Old West, set to the music of Ennio Morricone. Story written by Bernardo Bertolucci and Dario Argento.

Sun/Nov 21, 3:30 pm *Rio Bravo*, 1959, color, 141 min. Directed by Howard Hawks, with John Wayne, Dean Martin and Ricky Nelson. A sheriff has only a bunch of misfits to call on to help him prevent a jailbreak.

Wed/Nov 24, 7:30 pm *The Naked Spur*, 1953, color, 91 min. Directed by Anthony Mann, with James Stewart, Janet Leigh and Ralph Meeker. Tightly plotted psychological drama about a bounty hunter, his spineless partners and a cunning killer.

Sun/Nov 28, 3:30 pm *The Gunfighter*, 1950, b&w, 84 min. Directed by Henry King, with Gregory Peck, Helen Westcott and Karl Malden. A gunslinger trying to settle down discovers he can't escape his reputation.

Wed/Dec 1, 7 pm *Hell's Hinges*, 1916, b&w, silent, 60 min. Directed by William S. Hart, with Hart. A gunfighter is reformed and a minister corrupted in a fiery saga of sin and redemption.

*Tumbleweeds*, 1925, b&w, silent w/music track, 80 min. Directed by King Baggot, with William S. Hart. Sweeping, authentic land-rush drama, preceded by Hart's moving farewell to the screen, recorded in 1939.

Sun/Dec 5, 3:30 pm *Johnny Guitar*, 1954, color, 100 min. Directed by Nicholas Ray, with Joan Crawford, Sterling Hayden and Mercedes McCambridge. Revered in France as the greatest American western, this bizarre, kinky classic chronicles a confrontation between two tough-as-nails frontier women.